

IN THE CLAIMS

The current claims follow. For claims not marked as amended in this response, any difference in the claims below and the previous state of the claims is unintentional and in the nature of a typographical error.

1-12. (Cancelled)

13. (Previously Presented) For use in a wireless network, a method of operating a base station during a call set-up procedure, the method comprising the steps of:

transmitting null frames from said base station to a mobile station during the call set-up procedure;

during the call set-up procedure, detecting in a preamble frame detector of said base station preamble frames from said mobile station; and

adjusting a power level of said null frames transmitted to said mobile station by said base station.

14. (Original) The method as set forth in Claim 13 further comprising the steps of:

detecting at least one missing preamble frame from said mobile station; and

in response to said detection of said at least one missing preamble frame from said mobile station, increasing a power level of null frames transmitted by said base station.

15. (Original) The method as set forth in Claim 14 wherein said power level of said null frames is increased by a step size having a configurable value.

16. (Original) The method as set forth in Claim 14 further comprising the steps of:

providing in said base station a fade timer that has a configurable value;

starting said fade timer when said preamble frame detector detects at least one missing preamble frame from said mobile station; and

stopping a transmission of said null frames to said mobile station when said preamble frame detector detects at least one missing preamble frame from said mobile station.

17. (Original) The method as set forth in Claim 16 further comprising the step of: releasing a call between said base station and said mobile station when one of: said fade timer expires and a maximum power level for said null frames is exceeded.

18. (Original) The method as set forth in Claim 16 wherein said configurable value of said fade timer is less than five seconds.

19-30. (Cancelled).

31. (New) For use in a wireless network, a base station capable of releasing a call between said base station and a mobile station during a call set-up procedure, said base station comprising:

a transmitter that transmits null frames from the base station to a mobile station during the call set-up procedure;

a preamble frame detector that detects preamble frames transmitted to the base station by the mobile station during the call set-up procedure; and

a transmit power controller that adjusts a power level of null frames transmitted by the base station during the call set-up procedure.

32. (New) The base station as set forth in Claim 31, wherein the preamble frame detector detects at least one missing preamble frame from said mobile station; and the transmit power controller increases a power level of null frames transmitted by the base station in response to the preamble frame detector detecting the at least one missing preamble frame.

33. (New) The base station as set forth in Claim 32, wherein the power level of the null frames is increased by a step size having a configurable value.

34. (New) The base station as set forth in Claim 32, further comprising a fade timer that has a configurable value, wherein the fade timer is started when the preamble frame detector detects the at least one missing preamble frame from the mobile station, and wherein the transmitter stops transmitting the null frames to the mobile station when the preamble frame detector detects the at least one missing preamble frame from the mobile station.

35. (New) The base station as set forth in Claim 32, wherein the base station releases a call between the base station and the mobile station when one of: the fade timer expires and a maximum power level for the null frames is exceeded.

36. (New) The base station as set forth in Claim 32, wherein the configurable value of the fade timer is less than five seconds.

37. (New) The base station as set forth in Claim 32, wherein the preamble frames received by the base station are transmitted at increased power by the mobile station when the mobile station detects a missing null frame transmitted by the base station.

38. (New) A wireless network comprising a plurality of base stations, each of said plurality of base stations capable of releasing a call between said base station and a mobile station during a call set-up procedure, wherein said each base station comprises:

a transmitter that transmits null frames from the base station to a mobile station during the call set-up procedure;

a preamble frame detector that detects preamble frames transmitted to the base station by the mobile station during the call set-up procedure; and

a transmit power controller that adjusts a power level of null frames transmitted by the base station during the call set-up procedure.

39. (New) The wireless network as set forth in Claim 38, wherein the preamble frame detector detects at least one missing preamble frame from said mobile station; and the transmit power controller increases a power level of null frames transmitted by the base station in response to the preamble frame detector detecting the at least one missing preamble frame.

40. (New) The wireless network as set forth in Claim 39, wherein the power level of the null frames is increased by a step size having a configurable value.

41. (New) The wireless network as set forth in Claim 38, further comprising a fade timer that has a configurable value, wherein the fade timer is started when the preamble frame detector detects the at least one missing preamble frame from the mobile station, and wherein the transmitter stops transmitting the null frames to the mobile station when the preamble frame detector detects the at least one missing preamble frame from the mobile station.

42. (New) The wireless network as set forth in Claim 41, wherein at least one of the base stations releases a call between the base station and the mobile station when one of: the fade timer expires and a maximum power level for the null frames is exceeded.

43. (New) The wireless network as set forth in Claim 41, wherein the configurable value of the fade timer is less than five seconds.

44. (New) The wireless network as set forth in Claim 43, wherein the mobile station transmits the preamble frames received by at least one of the base stations at an increased power level in response to the mobile station detecting a missing null frame transmitted by the at least one base station.